

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, November 6, 1904, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. THE LORRAINE, Fifth Avenue & Forty-fifth Street, New York, N. Y. Sunday A. M. (Nov. 6, 1904.) My darling Alec:

Many thanks for your telegrams. I am so glad you were feeling rested, I hope that you are resting again today and taking care of your Father. His silent patient, waiting, goes to my heart sometimes, and I hope you will really spend more time with him, only don't let it be at the expense of the time you should spend in rest or exercise.

Mamma met me at the station, my dear little Mother, it is everything in the world to me now that you went to her in September. I can accept all her sacrifice in coming on and look her in the face without shame since I have the proud consciousness that when she called on you you responded at once. Whether it was really necessary matters not at all, the only thing that matters is that she thought she needed you and called you and you dropped everything and at great personal inconvenience went straight to her. I thanked you then, I have thanked you every day since in my heart, and more than ever I thank you now.

Well, I have seen Daisy and she looks better than she did when she left Baddeck. I am thankful I came on, if only to see for myself how things are, and be able to report to you. She is still flat in bed and kept quiet so I have left her and am back here with Mamma. It is just around the corner we don't have to cross any street.

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The attack was very sudden, she went to bed apparently perfectly well, at 3 A. M. she awoke with intense pain, at 7 A. M. Alice sent for Dr. Kennicutt, his assistant Dr. Draper came, diagnosed it as appendicitis and immediately telephoned Dr. Kennicutt who when

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he came sent for Dr. McBurney, the specialist. For two hours they thought an operation might be necessary any moment and were prepared for it, then the inflammation gradually grew less and by night she was sleeping quietly. Dr. Kennicutt promised to telegraph you himself and every one thought he had done so, but I suppose he waited to be sure how things were going and then being relieved forgot. Please find out about my telegram to Alice, I got Mamma's telegram about 1:30 P. M. Thursday, and immediately before going in to lunch telegraphed Alice, well they say that this telegram reached her Friday morning and she replied to it immediately and we got her reply at Grand Narrows, but the thing is that this telegram which I sent off before 2 P. M. Thursday, Nov. 3rd., was dated Baddeck Nov. 4, and reached here the same time as my telegram to Mamma sent Friday morning and yours to Dr. Marsh at same time. All three in short, left Baddeck at the same time although one was telephoned to town nearly 24 hours before. I want to investigate this because it is so important that we should be certain that our telephoned telegrams are sent at once. I have not had any conversation with Daisy yet, but I feel that it is just as well I came down now, and I would like to stay if I could be sure that you were taking proper care of yourself. I will let you know just how Daisy is and if I can go back I will. Alice is to be married in a few days so the question of what Daisy is to do has to be decided.

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Please remember you promised to fly kites every day and not drive at Census. I expect you to go on working at Census, and I want you to, only not as you have been doing lately. Don't make it any harder for me than necessary.

Lunch is ready now, so goodbye, Your Mabel.